

# JAPAN CHRISTIAN ACTIVITY NEWS

Chairman

Tsunetaro Miyakoda

*Published by the Commission on Public Relations  
of the National Christian Council of Japan*

Editors:

Kaname Tsukahara

Robert W. Northrop

William C. Weiss

CABLE CODE: JAPACONCIL, ADDRESS: CHRISTIAN CENTER, 24-CHOME GINZA, TOKYO, JAPAN

Subscription Rates: Japan ¥700; Foreign Sea mail) \$2.00; (Air mail) \$3.50.

No. 162

March 15, 1960

## In These Pages

United Church of Christ Holds Conference on Basic Strategy of . . . . .	1
Evangelism	
Individual Church and The Kyoku	
The Problem of Adjustment of the Evangelism Organization	
Cooperative Organization	
Missionary Problem	
Japan-Foreign Cooperation	
Church World Service Starts Operation Noodle . . . . .	4
AVACO News Release: Mathew Ogawa Honored on Tenth Anniversary . . . . .	4
AVACO Adds Photographic Department	
Workshop Dates Announced	
National Christian Council Investigation into The Actual Condition . . . . .	6
of Related Church Bodies-August 1959	

## UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST HOLDS CONFERENCE ON BASIC STRATEGY OF EVANGELISM

From February 22-24, about 120 ministers representing a cross section of leaders across the country, gathered at Amagi Sanso to discuss the basic strategy of evangelism.

The program was effectively organized under the leadership of Rev. Mr. Kozo Kashiwai, a member of the executive committee. After a speech by Professor Yoshiaki Iizaka on "The Place of Evangelism in Modern Japan", Mr. Kashiwai spoke on "How Has the Plan of Post-war Evangelism Changed and What Are the Results?". The members were divided into 5 sections for discussion. After two discussion sessions, the groups were all reshuffled and the findings reported are the consistent findings of the groups. This material will now be worked through by the appropriate bodies in the church, and these problems will be given further attention.







Mr. Kashiwai reflected on various aspects of the post-war development. The 'home mission' that was started as a cooperative effort over 10 years ago under the slogan 'Strengthen the evangelism self-support organization' achieved its aim of getting 90% of the goal to raise a special fund. However, the other aim to develop a mutual organization and an ecumenical spirit did not develop. So it came into being as an organ to supply funds for evangelism.

In the area of cooperation between the IBC and the Kyodan, he mentioned that reflecting back on the results there is much to be thankful for but that there are other things that call for self-reflection. The relationship from one side is that of a dependent to the American church and from the other side a kind of 'Boss' relationship. We desire to work more on a cooperative level. Another problem is that how the budget for evangelistic work is often not well thought out and there is a tendency rather to request more funds from abroad. There has not been an effective cooperative organization, therefore the service of the missionary has not been most effective. But thru the help of the CEC it has gradually improved. Also there are many ways in which the missionaries helped through foreign funds and other ways.

Another problem brought out was the structural set up of the COC with many sub-committees under it. No liaison type role was realized between the different bodies and it tended toward hammering out mutual plans from the central viewpoint without sufficient power to put them into practice. Further the 3,500,000 yen budget was divided among the different sections and became sectionalism.

Through the postwar efforts of such things as Lacour teams, Hokkaido Pioneer Evangelism, CEC Pioneer Evangelism and other efforts many new churches were built. Even in spite of the fact that some churches have withdrawn from the Kyodan, in 1949 there were 1325 churches and in 1958 the number had increased to 1551. We can't say the efforts have been bad, but on the other hand the level has not increased, if we look at the overall picture.

There has been a decreasing attendance at services. 80% of all the churches have less than 100 members, and 59% of the churches report less than 52% attending services.

The findings that follow are from the areas covered under the main heading 'Reevaluation of the Evangelistic Organization.'

#### Individual Church and The Kyoku

We must produce quantitatively as well as Qualitatively new churches and believers who have strength to resist pressures even though they be brought to bear on the church. We should produce something like a coefficient to measure the strength of the church. We should study the reasons why one church has good results and a weak church remains the same. The kyoku (presbytery) should produce pastoral care materials. The Catholic church establishes large churches in important places, the Protestants also build central churches. Should it have smaller churches 'to dispatch like catcher boats'? We should avoid making weak churches as we spread throughout Japan, therefore, make a large center in the middle of the evangelistic area.







The problem of rural churches in rural areas. Number 2 type churches, (make) the organization for pioneer evangelism an organization for the purpose of doing intense evangelism. Overcome the independence of large churches from the church. Establish a mutual help system for churches in city and rural districts. Establish firmly the essence of the Gospel. For building the life of the church and (also for the souls of the believer) quickly transfer the membership of non-resident members. Change the arrangements of responsibility in the kyoku (presbytery). Establish a system for expressing gratitude for renewal of personnel.

#### The Problem of Adjustment of the Evangelism Organization

1. Adjustment of the evangelism organization of the kyoku (presbytery)
  - A. Make clear the independence of the kyoku and the solidarity of the church and strengthen it functionally.
  - B. For the purpose of the United Church and the kyoku (presbytery) to jointly support evangelism, the present 72 rules should be revised.
  - C. For the purpose of developing independent strength of evangelism in the kyoku, we should give careful consideration in the direction of establishing a fund.
  - D. It is necessary to reorganize the kyoku.
2. We must investigate the committee organization.
  - A. Concerning the kyoku:
    - a. Strengthen the evangelism departments by a unified integrated evangelism.
    - b. Concerning personnel in the kyoku, mutually develop connections of each church and the kyoku and also the seminary.
    - c. Survey (plan out) the simplification and efficiency of the committees in the kyoku.
  - B. Within the kyoku
    - a. Make clear the character of the General Evangelism Committee and the special committees under it.
    - b. Simplify each committee as well as make the management more efficient.
    - c. Set up a mechanism for election of the committee members.

We must make the united evangelism system a living organization

1. To make the national unified evangelism organization vital (alive) we should appoint those who will devote themselves to it.
2. Divide the entire country into 4 parts, place persons in charge, and let them serve the kyoku in the district.

#### Cooperative Organization

At the present time, the problem of the kyodan keeping a balance and cooperatively working with the Christian schools and social work still exists. For working in close mutual cooperation in the future, the kyodan must broaden the understanding of the word 'church', whatever form it is; one opinion is that it must become acceptable to representatives from the schools and social work bodies, while another recent opinion from three persons with a cooperative relation, is that while gradually continuing to improve (the relation) leave the organization as it is, and expect the cooperation to deepen gradually. So to better the relationship, now, the following has been considered:

- a. We should establish a liaison committee in the kyodan between schools and social work bodies.
- b. The kyodan should endeavor to dispatch effective people as







- chaplains and Bible teachers to schools and social work.
- c. We should include social work expense in kyodan and kyoku budgets.
  - d. For the purpose of realization of the expansion of Christian education and the rationalization of the district distribution, the kyodan must think out this problem.

#### Missionary Problem

It is necessary to take into consideration the examples of good contributions made by missionaries with special techniques. It is effective to send missionaries with special skills and also to send regular missionaries to do cooperative evangelism for helping pioneer evangelism in the districts.

#### Japan-Foreign Cooperation

Concerning the cooperation of the Japanese church with several of the American churches, both are entrusted with the responsibility of evangelism of the world. While it is natural that they continue cooperative as theory, in reality the aid from abroad causes the church to be dependent; and, in addition, gives a cause for stumbling. One opinion was to temporarily limit support from abroad for building churches and invitations to lecturers from abroad. Another opinion was that financial help from abroad is necessary.

#### CHURCH WORLD SERVICE STARTS OPERATION NOODLE

After a very successful milk station in Tagawa City for the unemployed miners' children, a project to manufacture noodles for distribution to 7000 school children has been started.

The milk station project, under the supervision of Mr. Ogawa of CWS, was made possible through the service of 284 high school girls and Christians in the area who actually worked in the stations, and the 1,039,363 yen that was received in contributions to pay for freight and costs.

Now a project called 'Food for Children' has been started by Mrs. McFay and Mrs. Spencer. Funds have been solicited through the Japan Times to make possible distribution of noodles to the children. CWS is supervising the shipping and production and is being assisted in distribution by the prefectural government and the school teachers. Already four shipments of 120,000 pounds of flour has been shipped and this flour will be used for producing dried noodles. Each of the 7000 children will receive one package of dried noodles each day for 5 weeks. Each package makes two bowls of noodles. Before the end of 5 weeks another 20,000 pounds will be sent. Already 1,003,000 yen has been received. The goal is to raise 4 million yen.

#### AVACO NEWS RELEASE:

#### MATHEW OGAWA HONORED ON TENTH ANNIVERSARY

On March fifth Mathew S. Ogawa was the recipient of a luncheon given by the thirty-seven staff members of the Christian Audio Visual Center in honor of his tenth anniversary as Executive director of AVACO.

Brief messages containing words of tribute and reminiscence were given by Bishop Augustine Takase, Chairman of the AVACO Board; by Mr. Motoyoshi Nakanishi, Chief Engineer and senior staff member of AVACO in







years; and by Vern Rossman, Associate Director, who has been with AVACO since 1952. Miss Aiko Ishihara, Director of the General Affairs Department; and Mr. Megumi Hara, Director of the Production Department, each having been with AVACO for more than seven years, presided over the worship and after dinner activities, respectively.

Bishop Takase called attention to the sacrifices, both financial and in prestige, made by Mr. Ogawa in taking the then scorned post of director of the NCC's newly-formed audio-visual activities committee on March 3, 1950. He pointed out how the fact that AVACO has grown to be such a large and effective organization is indeed God's work, but how He has found an effective and humble servant in Mr. Ogawa.

#### AVACO ADDS PHOTOGRAPHIC DEPARTMENT

AVACO (the Audio Visual Activities Commission of the National Christian Council of Japan), according to Mr. Mathew S. Ogawa, Executive Director, is now prepared to open a photographic department which will serve in many new ways the churches and missionaries of Japan and mission boards and other groups overseas who are seeking photographic material on Japan and Christian activities in Japan.

Under the direction of Mr. Hiroyuki Nakagawa, AVACO staff photographer, AVACO plans to build a file of black and white negatives and colored slides of significant institutions, events and persons relating to Christianity in Japan. In addition, AVACO will undertake on a commission basis to go and photograph events, persons or institutions for overseas Christian or organizations who need such material. AVACO now has a fully equipped laboratory for working with black and white film, and has liaison with laboratories in Japan for handling either Japanese Color films or ANSCO color. As yet, thirty-five millimeter KODACHROME film is not developed in Japan, aside from commercial movie film. Slides on this film can be taken but must be sent abroad undeveloped.

In the near future AVACO will also be in position to fill orders for sixteen millimeter movie film footage in black and white or color. Professional camera equipment is available now and a staff is being trained.

#### WORKSHOP DATES ANNOUNCED

AVACO's workshop training schedule through the end of July has been decided and the dates released. On March 22 and 23 Mr. Motoyoshi Nakanishi, Chief Engineer, will travel to the island of Kyushu to conduct a workshop for training and licensing up to twenty persons to operate movie film projectors. May 2-5 will see a team of three or four persons on the northern island of Hokkaido conducting a three or four course workshop to include lectures on AV aids, licensing of projector operators, use of puppets and another course or two on nonprojected aids.

The eleventh annual national workshop of AVACO will be held in two hotels in Nakakaruizawa again this year and will extend over the four days, July 25 to 28. Again to be divided into two periods, this year's workshop will provide a number of highly intensive advanced courses for workshop repeaters who wish to probe more deeply into their subjects of interest.







In addition to AVACO-sponsored workshops, AVACO staff members also participate in church school department conferences, and in February Mr. Megumi Hara traveled to Hokkaido to be one lecturer in a workshop on broadcasting sponsored there by the Hokkaido branch of AVACO.

Fall workshops will be decided in the late spring.

# NATIONAL CHRISTIAN COUNCIL INVESTIGATION INTO THE ACTUAL CONDITION OF RELATED CHURCH BODIES-August 1959

## I. Basis of Survey

	total churches	number selected	samples used	percent of total	number of replies	percent replying of total	percent church
United Church	1480	219	219	14.8%	130	60.0%	8.8%
Episcopal	323	48	48	14.8	24	50.0	7.4
Ev. Lutheran	101	15	101	100.0	33	32.7	32.7
So. Baptist	131	18	131	100.0	28	21.4	21.4
W. Baptist	2035	300	499				
So. Baptist	47	-	47	100.0	30	63.8	63.8
Total	2082	-	546	-	238	45.0	11.4

Officially withdrew from United Church last year, although some remain connected

## II. Distribution of total member churches and survey churches by area

	1	2	3	4	number	percent
United Church *total	12.4%	39.4%	24.5%	23.8%	(1480)	100%
*survey	14.0	32.0	28.0	26.0	(129)	100
Episcopal *total	18.3	39.6	26.9	15.2	(323)	100
*survey	16.7	25.0	45.8	12.5	(24)	100
Ev. Lutheran *total	5.0	26.0	12.	57	(101)	100
*survey	9.1	27.3	12.1	51.5	(33)	100
So. Baptist *total	6.1	16.	9.1	69.8	(131)	100
*survey	7	25	18	50	(28)	100
W. Baptist *total					(47)	100
*survey	16.7	40	16.7	26.6	(30)	100

1-Hokkaido, Tohoku, Tohoku district. 2-Kansai, Chihō, Yamanashi, Shizuoka, Nagano, Tokai. 3-Kinki area, Toyama, Ishikawa, Fukui, Gifu, Aichi. 4-Chugoku, Shikoku, Kyushu district

\* total-total of denominational churches

\* Survey-percentage to which questionnaire sent

## III. Distribution of total member churches and survey churches by city

Distribution of total member churches and survey churches		***% main over		10,000- 5,000-		under		Vil-	Total	
	cities	30,000	30,000	10,000	5,000	Town	lage			
United	*total	23.2%	5.3%	17.6%	12.6	14. %	22.6%	4.7%	1480	100%
Church	*survey	24.8	7.7	17.8	13.9	12.5	22.4	0.9	129	100
Episcopal	total	23.1	6.4	26	14.8	9.6	14.2	5.9	323	100
	survey	37.5	12.5	33.3	16.7	-	-	-	24	100
Ev.	total	20	15	20	14	7	18	6	101	100
Lutheran	survey	15.1	18.1	15.1	15.1	9.1	24.2	3.3	33	100
So. Bap.	total	12.2	16.8	29.8	6.1	10.6	20	4.5	131	100
	survey	17.9	25	35.7	10.7	10.7	-	-	28	100
W. Bap.	total								47	100
	survey	30	13.3	13.3	6.8	13.3	23.3	-	30	100







\* Total-total of denominational churches  
 \* Survey-percentage to which questionnaire sent  
 \*\* 6 main cities-Tokyo, Yokohama, Nagoya, Osaka, Kyoto, Kobe

#### IV Membership of Church Bodies

	Total Membership	Sent Questionnaires	Replies
United Church	167,971	2,675	1.6%
Episcopal	39,603	1,267	3.2
Ev. Lutheran	7,250	499	6.8
Co. Baptist	9,397	1,288	13.7
Co. Baptist	3,503	1,204	34.1
Totals	227,724	6,933	3.04

#### Type of Environment

	Resident area	Business area	Factory	Mines	Rural area	Resident Bus.	Factory Res.	Rural Res.	Oth- er
Yodan	36	23	6	1	22	4	2	1	0
Episcopalian	11	8	1	0	0	1	1	0	0
Lutheran	14	4	2	0	6	2	0	1	1
Baptist So.	15	3	0	0	1	6	0	0	0
Baptist No.	11	7	2	1	5	1	0	0	0
Total	87	45	11	2	34	14	3	2	1
Percent	39.2	20.3	4.9	0.9	15.3	6.3	1.4	0.9	

	Bus.Fac. Res.	Rural Bus. Factory	Rural Res. Mines	Bus. Factory	Others	No Reply	Total 113
Yodan	0	0	0	3	12	3	24
Episcopal	0	0	0	0	2	0	33
Lutheran	0	1	0	1	0	1	28
Baptist So.	0	0	1	0	1	1	30
Baptist No.	1	0	0	0	1	1	228
Total	1	1	1	4	16	6	
Percent		1.8		1.8	7.2	-	100

Classification According to Status of 'Member' and Church Membership  
 (Those replying marked a circle under heading 'active member', 'member',  
 or 'catechumens' under the appropriate category for their church member-  
 ship size). The replies were listed under the 'members' status.

#### Active Members(participate in communion and really support church)

	10-30	31-100	101-200	201-300	301-400	above 400	total
Yodan	36	55	9	6	3	2	113
Episcopal	4	9	8	1	1	0	24
Ev. Lutheran	19	9	4	0	0	0	33
Co. Baptist	2	16	6	1	0	0	28
Co. Baptist	16	7	6	0	0	0	30
Total	77	96	33	8	4	2	228
Percent	35%	43.7	15.0	3.6	1.8	0.9	100







B. Members(on Roll)

	10-30	31-100	101-200	201-300	301-400	above 400	total
Kyodan	18	46	23	3	3	5	115
Episcopal	0	6	8	5	1	1	24
Ev. Lutheran	11	13	2	2	2	0	33
So. Baptist	3	9	8	3	3	0	28
No. Baptist	9	11	4	2	1	1	30
Total	41	85	45	15	10	7	228
Percent	20.2	41.9	22.2	7.4	4.9	3.4	- 100

## C Catechumens

	10-30	31-100	101-200	201-300	301-400	above 400	total
Kyodan	74	23	5	2	0	0	113
Episcopal	16	5	2	0	0	0	24
Ev. Lutheran	28	4	0	0	0	0	33
So. Baptist	15	9	2	0	0	0	28
No. Baptist	22	7	0	0	0	0	30
Total	155	48	9	2	0	0	228
Percent	72.5	22.4	4.2	.9	0	0	- 100

## Attendance at divine worship

	10-50	51-100	101-200	201-300	301-400	401- no reply	total
Kyodan	79	23	5	2	0	0	113
Episcopal	9	5	2	0	0	0	24
Ev. Lutheran	24	4	0	0	0	0	33
So. Baptist	11	9	2	0	0	0	28
No. Baptist	20	7	0	0	0	0	30
Total	143	48	9	2	0	0	228
Percent	63.8	22.4	4.2	0.9	0	0	- 100

## Age of Pastor(not assistants)

	21-24		25-29		30-34		35-39		40-44		45-49		50-54		55-59	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Kyodan	0	0	6	5.5	21	19.3	10	9.2	7	6.4	20	18.3	15	13.8	5	4.6
Episcopal	0		0		2	8.3	2	8.3	1	4.2	6	25.0	2	8.3	4	16.7
Ev. Lutheran	0		9	29.0	11	35.5	2	6.5	3	9.7	0		1	3.2	1	3.2
So. Baptist	1	4.0	4	16.0	6	24.0	6	24.0	1	4.0	3	12.0	0		1	4.0
No. Baptist	1	3.4	6	20.7	5	17.3	0		1	3.4	2	6.9	5	17.3	4	13.8
Total	2	0.9	25	11.5	45	20.6	20	9.2	13	6.0	31	14.2	23	10.5	15	6.9

## Age of Pastors(not assistants) continued

	60-64		65-69		70 and above		no reply	Total
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%		
Kyodan	8	7.3	9	8.3	8	7.3	4	113
Episcopal	3	12.6	2	8.3	2	8.3	0	24
Ev. Lutheran	1	3.2	2	6.5	1	3.2	2	33
No. Baptist	1	4.0	1	4.0	1	4.0	3	28
No. Baptist	4	13.8	0		1	3.4	1	30
Total	17	7.8	14	6.4	13	6.0	10	228

(next issue we will include comments on churches and also the members)



